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## CALIFORNIA PIMP CHARGED WITH CHILD SEX TRAFFICKING AND INTERSTATE TRANSPORTATION OF 14 AND 15 YEAR-OLD GIRLS FOR PROSTITUTION

PHOENIX, Ariz. -- Jeremiah Ulysses Crayton, age 27, of San Francisco, California, was charged here yesterday with two counts of Sex Trafficking of a Minor and two counts of Interstate Transportation of a Minor for Prostitution.

U.S. Attorney Paul K. Charlton said, "Turning girls into prostitutes destroys their childhood and leaves their adulthood filled with memories of this heartless crime. We intend to aggressively prosecute those who trade in the pain and misery of children."

The complaint alleges that in August of 2004 Crayton took a juvenile female, who he knew was under the age of eighteen, from Phoenix, Arizona, to San Francisco, California, where he caused her to work for him as a prostitute. The girl had the misfortune of being introduced to Crayton by a prostitute who worked for him simply because she got off at the wrong bus stop on her way to the Metro Center Mall in Phoenix. Crayton required the fourteen year old girl to give him all the money she earned while working as a prostitute on the streets of San Francisco. Crayton sent the girl back to Phoenix on a Greyhound bus when he learned police in Phoenix were looking for her as a runaway.

The complaint further alleges that in September of 2005 Crayton took a fifteen year old female from Phoenix, Arizona, to San Francisco, California, where he caused her to engage in prostitution. Despite learning in San Francisco that the girl was only 15 years old, Crayton drove her back to Phoenix, where he continued to have her work for him as a prostitute. Crayton also required the fifteen year old girl to give him all the money she earned working as a prostitute on the streets of both San Francisco and Phoenix.

A conviction for Sex Trafficking of a Minor carries a maximum penalty of 40 years in prison, and a \$250,000 fine or both. A conviction for Interstate Transportation of a Minor for Prostitution carries a mandatory minimum penalty of 5 years, a maximum penalty of 30 years, and a \$250,000 fine or both. In determining an actual sentence, the District Court Judge will consult the U.S. Sentencing Guidelines, which provide appropriate sentencing ranges. The judge, however, is not bound by those guidelines in determining a sentence.

A criminal complaint is simply the method by which a person is charged with criminal activity and raises no inference of guilt. An individual is presumed innocent until competent evidence is presented to a jury that establishes guilt beyond a reasonable doubt.

The investigation in this case was conducted by the FBI in Phoenix and San Francisco and

the Phoenix Police Department. The prosecution is being handled by Bill C. Solomon, Assistant U.S. Attorney, District of Arizona, Phoenix.

CASE NUMBER: CRIMINAL COMPLAINT # 06-6212M

RELEASE NUMBER: 2006-205(Crayton)

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